



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

**MAY 16 2013**

FOIA No.: 2013-04-168

OASIS No.: CT-644638

CJ Ciaramella  
MuckRock  
DEPT MR 4916  
Box 55819  
Boston, MA 02205-5819

Dear Mr. Ciaramella:

This acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (FOIA)/Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552a (PA), request to the Department of the Treasury. You requested all records and communications regarding the people-to-people license to travel to Cuba issued by the Treasury Department to Shawn Carter, a/k/a J-Z, and Beyonce Knowles-Carter from January 1, 2012 through April 11, 2013. Your FOIA request was referred to the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) for processing.

Please be aware that OFAC is experiencing a substantial backlog of FOIA requests that has adversely affected its response time.

We may encounter some delay in processing your request. Per Section 1.5(j) of the Treasury FOIA regulations, 31 C.F.R., Subtitle A, Part 1, Subpart A, the Department processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although Treasury's goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, the FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period. Upon review of the documents requested OFAC will need to search for, collect and appropriately examine a voluminous amount of separate and distinct records. Due to these unusual circumstances, Treasury will invoke a 10-day extension for your request, as allowed by Title 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). If you care to narrow the scope of your request, please contact our office.

With regard to your request for a fee waiver, your request is denied.

Your request does not reasonably describe how disclosure of the records requested is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government. Neither does your request indicate how this understanding will be significantly more than current understanding. Finally, you have not demonstrated that release of the requested records will contribute to the understanding of the public at large, as opposed to the understanding of a narrow segment of persons who may be interested in these records. Therefore, it is our determination that you do not qualify for a fee waiver.

For fee purposes, we have determined that, you are a "media" requestor. The FOIA, specifically 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(4)(A), and Treasury FOIA regulations at 31 C.F.R. § 1.7, allow us to recover

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part of the cost of addressing your request. As a "media" requestor, you will be charged the cost of duplication only, excluding charges for the first 100 pages. Duplication will be assessed at 20-cents per page. We have construed your request as an agreement to pay up to \$25.00. You will be contacted before any further fees are accrued.

You may appeal our denial of your request, in writing, within 35 days after the date of this letter to the Freedom of Information Act Appeal, Disclosure Services (DO), Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20220. The deciding official for OFAC appeals is the Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control. Please include with your letter of appeal a copy of this response letter. Please reference FOIA case number 2013-04-168 in all future correspondence. Copies of the FOIA and Treasury regulations are available at [www.treasury.gov/foia](http://www.treasury.gov/foia).

We will query the appropriate OFAC component for responsive records. If any responsive records are located, they will be reviewed for determination of releasability. Please be assured that one of our analysts will respond to your request as expeditiously as possible. We appreciate your patience as we proceed with your request.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter, please email [OFACFOIAOffice@treasury.gov](mailto:OFACFOIAOffice@treasury.gov) or contact our FOIA Requester Service Center at 202-622-2500, option 3. Please reference FOIA No. 2013-04-168 in all future correspondence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Moss', is written over the typed name.

Elizabeth Moss, Ph.D., M.L.S.  
Senior FOIA Reviewer  
Information Disclosure Division  
Office of Resource Management  
Office of Foreign Assets Control